

THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JACL



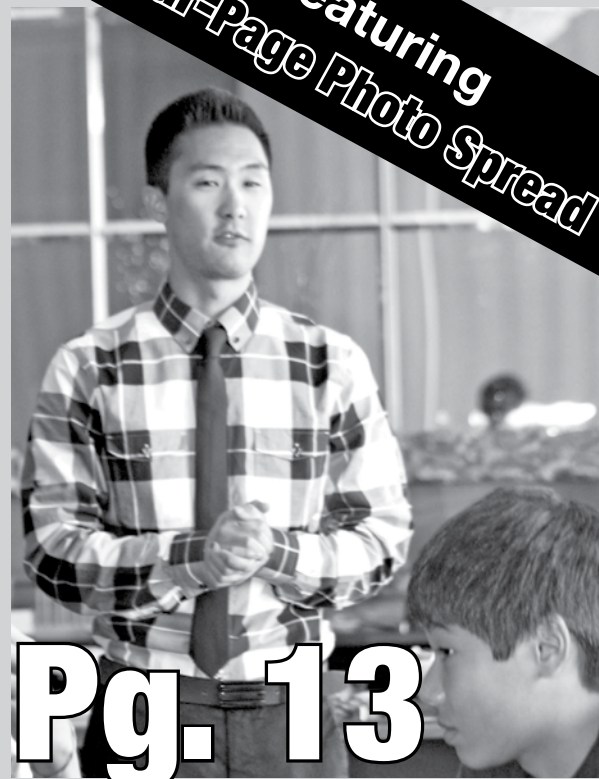
# PACIFIC CITIZEN



## SPECIAL CONVENTION ISSUE

**Exclusive coverage of the 2012  
JACL national convention!**

**Featuring  
Four-Page Photo Spread**



**Pg. 13**

**Youth flock to the JACL  
national convention.**



**Pg. 04**

**JACL installs 2012-14  
board of directors.**



**Pg. 07**

**Karen Narasaki receives  
Edison Uno Civil Rights  
Award.**



## Letters to the Editor

### AN APPEAL TO THE YOUTH

The camp stories are of declining interest.

Today's youth are looking increasingly for internal Nikkei fulfillment, unmoved by the big symbol of the internment or military services.

The key to success today is providing positive Nikkei experiences. The internment camps are less important now than they were 20 years ago. Nikkei are looking inwards for cultural and religious expressions, searching for essays, sources and values.

I think that E.O. 9066 does still hold some influence, but the community's priorities are changing.

The *Pacific Citizen* needs to be relevant to young people's lives, dealing with issues like education, faith, and professional careers. The internment articles are not a particularly effective theme in presenting Nikkei life to our youth.

As it becomes more distant, it will have a less shocking effect. Today's student and youth debates are not about how big a part of E.O. 9066 should play in the collective Nikkei memory, but the challenge of inspiring the Nikkei identity in a generation in which the internment and the 442nd and the MIS are no longer touchstones.

With the change in editor, now is the time to change. Today's Nikkei youth appear inclined to define themselves through something broader than E.O. 9066.

**Takasumi Kojima**  
Berkeley, CA

### THANK YOU NATIONAL JACL

On behalf of the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee and NVC Foundation, we thank the national JACL for the prestigious 2012 Japanese American of the Biennium Award. This honor belongs to all those who have come before us from 1946 — when NVC was formed — to the present where we continue as a bifurcated veterans-community organization with the motto "Honoring the Past, Educating the Future." We stand on the shoulders of all Nisei veterans, who through their patriotism, valor and sacrifice, have educated our communities and our country as a whole, about the lessons learned from the Japanese American experience.

The NVC Foundation is the future of our organizations, and we will always be inspired by the sacrifices and contributions of the Issei and Nisei generations. Our mission is to preserve and honor the JA legacies and to provide community programs that meet the educational, cultural and social needs of the broader community.

This award acknowledges that we are on the right path and that our efforts are appreciated. It gives us hope that we will be able to sustain our organization into the future.

We want to especially thank Bill Tashima for his dedication in writing up the awards nomination packet. It was a very impressive document!

Special thanks go to our many volunteers who are the backbone of our organization and to our numerous supporters, who believe in what we are trying to accomplish.

**Tom Kometani**  
Commander, NVC  
**Debbie Kashino**  
President, NVC Foundation

### P.C.: OVERCOMING SHORT-TERM OBSTACLES, MAKING LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS



By Carol Kawamoto

Although many longtime JACLers no doubt know me, I'd like to take this opportunity to reintroduce myself on the occasion of being appointed the chair of the *Pacific Citizen* Editorial Board. My JACL and professional credits include

a master's degree in education with an administrative credential, and service as a JACL chapter president, district governor and a national JACL vice president.

I must admit that I was hesitant to accept JACL President David Lin's offer to be this biennium's *P.C.* Editorial Board chair. I knew, however, there was much work to be done, and I was willing to utilize my time, made available by my recent retirement, to help the JACL. I'm honored to join several great PSW JACLers who have served in this position. The list includes George Inagaki, current PSW Gov. Ken Inouye and one of my JACL mentors, Dr. Roy Nishikawa. I will strive to move our National JACL publication forward and maintain their service to our membership.

Unlike all my predecessors, however, I am entering this position facing some unprecedented challenges that have arisen in recent weeks. A quick

**>> See KAWAMOTO pg. 16**

### WITH THE P.C. AT A CROSSROADS, A RARE CHANCE FOR RENEWAL



By Gil Asakawa

The *Pacific Citizen* needs your help more than ever this year.

As a writer and editor, I'm not supposed to rely on clichés. But the current situation of the *Pacific Citizen* is best described by a cliché, that the Chinese character for "crisis" also means "opportunity."

When I served as the *P.C.* Editorial Board's chair for seven years, I defended the newspaper and its staff vigorously at national JACL board meetings. Because it's expensive to run a news organization, even a superlean one like this, the *P.C.* has always been an easy target when budgets tighten and money is scarce.

But I warned the national board every time someone didn't understand the importance of the *P.C.* to the general membership, or the value it represented for its cost to the organization's bottom line. I also warned that the staff, including Executive Editor Caroline Aoyagi and Assistant Editor Lynda Lin, were precariously underpaid and were working their butts off, doing an excellent job primarily out of passion for their mission and pride in the quality of the *P.C.* I cautioned that both

these fine journalists might flee for other media jobs. Finally, that's what happened with Caroline, who was wooed away for another job. Lynda is moving because her husband was suddenly transferred overseas by his company.

The *P.C.* is obviously in an unsettled transitional time. A time of crisis.

But I'm hopeful that the *P.C.* will emerge, like many other news organizations have done in the past few years of economic turmoil, with a renewed sense of purpose applied to the same principles of newsgathering and storytelling, and supporting JACL's mission. We're looking for a new editor and assistant editor. We're also looking for a business manager. That leaves Nalea J. Ko, the talented young reporter, and Eva Lau-Ting, the circulation manager and 13-year veteran of the staff.

Yes, it's a crisis for the *P.C.* It's also, however, an opportunity, to find great people to fill the positions, and set the *P.C.* on a path of even greater accomplishments than Caroline, who helmed the paper for 15 years and into the digital age with the [pacificcitizen.org](http://pacificcitizen.org) website. Journalism as an industry is evolving, and so can the *P.C.*

JACL's national board can evolve with the *P.C.*, because the organization has new leadership including a new national director, and newly elected national president and vice presidents, as well as a new *P.C.* Editorial Board Chair in Carol Kawamoto.

It's a rare confluence of change in the national organization, and I'm optimistic that the *Pacific Citizen* can maintain its excellence with new editorial leadership to match the JACL's leadership. Let's harness everyone's renewed energies to help the *P.C.* grow and prosper, and take it into the next era. ■

**Gil Asakawa is a journalist, blogger, author and former Pacific Citizen Editorial Board Chair.**

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PHOTO BY CHRISTINE FUKUSHIMA

Mako Nakagawa speaking at the Power of Words workshop.

By Christine Fukushima, P.C. Correspondent

**S**EATTLE — A year after dominating the floor at the 2011 JACL national convention, the “Power of Words” handbook was again a topic of lively discussion at the 2012 JACL national convention in Bellevue, Wash.

Following the unanimous passage of the latest resolution to approve the “Power of Words” handbook, convention attendees flocked to the two sequential workshops on the subject, where panelists shared their thoughts and instructed their audience on the next step in actually implementing the

## JACLERS REVISIT *THE* ‘POWER OF WORDS’

terminology.

“I went from classroom to classroom pledging allegiance to the flag with liberty and justice for all,” said Mako Nakagawa, director of the workshop’s second session, referring to her days as a school principal. “We have to have just not those words, we have to have the commitment to that justice for all. We have to start using the terminology.” [See Nakagawa’s commentary below.]

Kaila Yoshitomi, another panelist at the workshop’s first session and the current secretary of the National Youth/Student Council and a Seattle JACL chapter board member, brought some audience members to tears with her poem (see below) about the true power of words.

Yoshitomi says she wanted to speak on the panel because she felt that some youth encountered barriers to being part of the Power of Words discussion. She also said she felt a personal connection to the issue, as her grandparents had been incarcerated at camps at Tule Lake, Minidoka, and Christina Lake in Canada.

“I feel like there’s this perception that in order to be involved in the Power of Words

[discussion], you have to have gone through the camps. But there’s another side of it where the youth need to show that we’re involved,” said Yoshitomi.

“It’s [the youth] who are going to be pulling that story out of our grandparents and our great grandparents . . . they’ve gone through the experience. Now it’s our turn to learn from them,” Yoshitomi added.

While the popularity of the Power of Words workshops sparked a continuous need for more seating, promptly supplied by hotel staff, other workshops on a diverse array of topics also captured the attention of interested JACLers.

Among the most popular workshops for the youth de-

cannot be forgotten.

Within two hours following the unanimous JACL council vote, the Seattle POW committee began the POW workshop on terminology calling it, “Spreading the Word.” Aimed at encouraging people to serve as promoters of the POW drive, the workshop opened with a panel of speakers. Dr. Lane Hirabayashi provided a scholarly look at the issue from the overview of yesterday. Barbara Takei, a prime mover of the Tule Lake pilgrimages, drew from her personal involvement in a wide range of civil rights-justice issues.

The third panelist, Kaila Yoshitomi, shared her insight from the perspective of a young person demonstrating wisdom beyond her 20 years of age. The poem she wrote for this occasion exhibited her thoughtful grace, courageous honesty and with a blunt challenge for tomorrow.

This panel was introduced and facilitated by co-chair Stanley Shikuma, who allowed a short Q&A period from the audience.

Dawn Rego and I facilitated the second part of the workshop. Both our common commitment to move POW forward and our contrasting personal styles of addressing the participants complemented the presentation. The people in the audience chimed right in and caused the discussion to be fully alive. They were warned that we had planned to ask the self-identified reluctant (potential public speakers) if the workshop had any effect on their willingness to become a POW promoter. We hoped that at least one person would be willing to be counted as changing their position. It was truly unbelievably exciting to see more than a dozen hands go up. If that many people can honestly attest to being transformed from an, “Oh no, not me” person, to a “OK, I can give that a try” person within a short workshop, we definitely have a great running start to launch a successful POW Spread the Word campaign. Please join us and spread the word with us. Say what you mean and mean what you say. It is a worthy cause. ■

mographic was the workshop sponsored by State Farm on “Buying Your Dream Car.” Other workshops covered topics ranging from environmental justice and Nikkei senior health.

The oft-mentioned problem of declining membership was tackled in a workshop led by Phillip Ozaki and Anne Noguchi, former and current JACL membership coordinators, respectively. Attendees of the “Strategies Marketing and Communications Plan for JACL” participated in roundtable discussions regarding JACL’s utilization of social media.

Representatives from Densho, the National Park Service, the University of California Asian American Studies Department, as well as many others from Washington organizations and around the country, led the two hours of workshops.

At the workshop, Yoshitomi shared her thoughts on the importance of teaching Americans at a younger age about the Japanese American experience during World War II.

With the other panelists and discussion leaders at the workshop, Yoshitomi hopes to make the Japanese American concentration camp experience an important chapter in history lessons to come.

“If you wait until you’re in high school, no one pays attention . . . then it becomes like you’re learning about ‘the other’ and you’re not learning about American history,” said Yoshitomi.

“They make it seem like something happened a really long time ago. But it’s not many generations back.” ■

## Commentary

# ‘POWER OF WORDS’ STILL A COMPELLING TOPIC IN JACL

By Mako Nakagawa

**J**uly 7 was a significant day for the Power of Words drive designed to encourage the use of more accurate terms in describing the World War II incarceration experience of Nikkei people into American concentration camps.

The first order of business for the national JACL council at 7:30 a.m. was the vote to ratify the “Power of Words” handbook. The second vote was to ratify the companion implementation plan. Both these documents were the products of the National POW ad hoc committee. Each of these items not only gained the approval of the national JACL council, but was recognized with the unanimous vote of 86 “yes” votes to 0 “no” votes.

Now the national JACL platform and the support from the chapters are crystal clear. Terms considered euphemistic or misnomers are clearly identified. Recommended replacement terms are offered.

POW can now launch Phase II, which involves implementation of the goals, including a campaign to educate people within JACL, as well as other pertinent groups. Volunteer POW promoters are needed to help spread the word. No doubt, joyous celebration is called for, but the work ahead

## Silencing Euphemisms

By Kaila Yoshitomi

Words are the expression of the mind  
Flowing through our bodies  
Taking a memory, an experience  
And painting a picture  
For a stranger  
You see that memory in your mind and you describe your feelings  
The surroundings, the smells, the details  
Down to the very crimson of the lipstick your mother was wearing  
The path that the tear fell across her cheek  
The smell of your father as he holds you close  
The sound of his voice telling you that everything is going to be OK

But somehow the only lasting memory that makes it  
Through the test of time  
Are the ones of baseball and dances  
Of art and childhood friendships forged not in playgrounds and classrooms  
But from behind barbed wires and staring down the barrel of a gun  
Somehow the picture you painted in your mind was altered  
The words you carefully chose to describe your memory  
Were replaced  
Somehow the pain of being an enemy in your own country  
The hurt of being called a “JAP”

Was somehow OK  
Because the delusion of the good ol’ “Camp Days” lives on  
And reality pushed aside  
People have pushed the hurt aside, buried it deep  
As if it never happened  
Covered with delusions of happiness  
This was OUR past, softened around the edges with euphemisms  
Today its upon us to bring those memories back into focus  
We are the masters of our history  
Not to change it, or push it behind us and into the margins  
But to use the power of words to immortalize the darker parts of this country’s history  
Because if we let it be forgotten, we are as guilty as those who stood outside the barbed wire fence and said nothing, staring back at those silenced and forgotten. ■





David Lin, the immediate past JACL national vice president of membership, was elected as national president.

## JACL MAKES HISTORY, ELECTS DAVID LIN AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Lin becomes the first Chinese American to lead the civil rights organization.

*By Nalea J. Ko, P.C. Staff Reporter*

SEATTLE — David Lin made JACL history in July when the civil rights organization elected him as its national president, the first time the position has gone to an American of Chinese heritage.

In addition to Lin, the JACL elected its 2012-14 national board during the July 5-8 national convention, held in Bellevue, Wash. Lin received 62.5 votes of the 86.5 votes cast, with Jeff Yoshioka, who also ran for post, receiving 23.5 votes. The .5 was categorized as “none of the above.”

“This is a truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. I accept this nomination with both humility and gratitude,” Lin said, addressing the national council.

From 2010-12, Lin served as vice president of membership on the JACL national board. Before that, Lin, who hails from New Jersey, was on the Hillsborough Township Board of Education from 2006-09.

“The national JACL needs an exceptional leader at this time,” said Miko Sawamura, of the Sacramento JACL chapter, at the national convention. “David is that exceptional leader.”

In addition to his work at JACL, Lin serves as treasurer of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies. He holds master’s degrees in computer science and business administration from Rutgers University, where he also received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics.

“I had hoped maybe a woman would run,” joked Lillian Kimura, the first woman to be elected JACL national president. “But David is really our man, here.”

Lin is the executive director of external affairs at AT&T in New Jersey. He is credited with developing a strong corporate partnership between JACL and AT&T. Lin served as the immediate past president-founding president of Asian Pacific Islanders for Professional and Community Advancement, a nonprofit organization that provides leadership opportunities and alliances for Asian Pacific Islanders employed at AT&T. He has been involved with APCA for over 19 years.

“I also say this on behalf of my husband, Dale Ikeda, from the Clovis chapter: David has demonstrated his commitment to JACL through his service to our organization by serving as VP for membership,” said

Deborah Ikeda, before the election results were announced. “He’s helped us secure significant funding for our organization and has a strong business background, which we believe we need at this time.”

Also endorsing Lin for national president were Matthew Farrells (national secretary/treasurer) and Toshi Abe (EDC district governor).

Lin is a lifetime member of JACL and OCA.  
**The Election Results/JACL 2012-14 National Convention:**

### **David Lin, National President**

Number of Votes Cast: **86.5**  
Necessary For Election: **43.5**  
Votes Received: **62.5**

### **Craig Tomiyoshi, VP For Public Affairs**

Number of Votes Cast: **86.5**  
Necessary For Election: **43.5**  
Votes Received: **85.5**

### **Jason Chang, VP for Planning and Development**

Number of Votes Cast: **86.5**  
Necessary For Election: **43.5**  
Votes Received: **81**

### **Elaine Akagi, VP For General Operations**

Number of Votes Cast: **86.5**  
Necessary For Election: **43.5**  
Votes Received: **80.5**

### **John Moy, VP For the Thousand Club, Membership and Services**

Number of Votes Cast: **86.5**  
Necessary For Election: **43.5**  
Votes Received: **71.5**

### **Matthew Farrells, Secretary/Treasurer**

Number of Votes Cast: **86.5**  
Necessary For Election: **43.5**  
Votes Received: **77**

### **Jeffrey Moy, National Youth/Student Chair**

Number of Votes Cast: **8**  
Necessary For Election: **4.5**  
Votes Received: **8**

### **Mariko Newton, National Youth/Student Rep.**

Number of Votes Cast: **8**  
Necessary For Election: **4.5**  
Votes Received: **8**

## GENE KIM WINS JACL VISION AWARD, SHARES VISION FOR RISING APA GENERATION

Named executive director of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus at 26, Gene Kim is the latest recipient of the JACL Youth Vision Award.

*By Christine Fukushima, P.C. Correspondent*

SEATTLE — When Gene Kim traveled to Washington, D.C., after graduating from the University of California, Berkeley, he planned on spending eight weeks having a lot of fun while dipping his toes into the public policy pool.

Five and a half years later, he’s still there, and things are going swimmingly.

“When I went there that first summer, growing up in SoCal like I did, going to UC Berkeley like I did, I think I took diversity for granted. I think I took a certain cultural knowledge and understanding and assumed that’s the way it was in our country,” said Kim, who received the JACL Vision Award at the 2012 convention in Bellevue, Wash.

Kim added that in Congress, to his surprise, he met people who didn’t know the story of the Japanese American experience during World War II.

“And after hearing that for myself, seeing that for myself, I just felt compelled to stay there to see what I could do to help alleviate the situation,” he added.

The Vision Award was presented during the JACL convention’s youth luncheon. The recognition is given to Asian Pacific Americans or organizations that have made strides in an unconventional field.

The National Youth/Student Council chooses the recipient that best exemplifies the ideals of the award. Past recipients have included Judge Lance Ito, Olympic gold medal figure skater Kristie Yamaguchi and the music group Hiroshima.

Named the executive director of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus at 26, Kim’s accomplishments earned him recognition as 2012’s award recipient.

In that role, Kim has made strides to be a strong voice for the APA community. Kim says the issues in the APA community are sometimes overlooked by policymakers because of the model minority myth and a lack of exposure in the public policy arena.

“[There was] even one instance where another staffer came up to me and said, ‘Gene, do you know what I like about you? You’re the only Asian guy I’ve ever met who doesn’t stare at the floor when he walks down the hall,’” he said. “Perceptions of leadership, perceptions of our community, perceptions of our needs — the amount of disconnect wasn’t even malicious, it was just a lack of exposure and ignorance.”

Comprised of 42 members of Congress, CAPAC was founded in 1994 by then-Rep. Norman Mineta. California Rep. Judy Chu currently chairs the committee.

With Kim at the helm, the caucus has tackled issues that affect the APA community, such as immigration and military hazing.

“Seeing somebody who is so charismatic, so eloquent and so put together at the age of 27 and having a year under his belt as executive director is something to inspire the youth,” Mackenzie Walker, the JACL Masaoka fellow who worked under Kim at CAPAC this past year.

Growing up as a self-described “shy Asian kid” in California, Kim aspired to become an engineer. Kim said he had no idea he’d ever work in public service.

“The concept of working in public service, in government and politics, was the furthest thing from my mind. Like a lot of folks out there I thought that D.C. was broken. I thought that what happened in Washington didn’t matter, and I thought that I had no role to play,” Kim said.

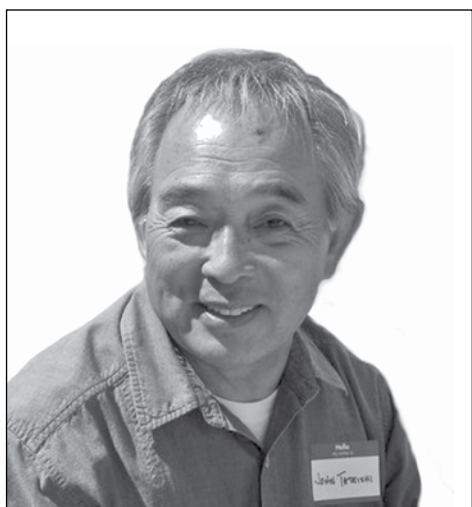
But while a student at UC Berkeley, Kim says he “awoke” to the social problems of the country. He worked at soup kitchens and volunteered at an affordable housing clinic, among other activities.

“I would have been perfectly content standing in the shadow of the men and women whom I admired, who stood on the front lines and that I looked up to,” Kim said. “But at multiple points in my career, there came a time when those people weren’t there anymore.”

“And when they weren’t there in front of me, the light fell on and I had to make a choice. How would I respond now that I was the front of the line? And the way that I responded to those types of situations has defined my career.” ■



## FOR THE RECORD



## A RETURN TO JIM CROW

By John Tateishi

During the past 18 months, Republican-controlled legislatures in 10 states have passed laws that require government-issued photo IDs for anyone wishing to vote. They claim that the purpose of these laws is to prevent voter fraud, but states with these new laws have no history of election abuse or fraud.

The Republican strategy for pushing these new laws through in was made obvious in June when Mike Turzai, majority leader of the Pennsylvania state Republicans, boasted that the new voter ID law “is gonna allow Gov. Romney to win the state of Pennsylvania.”

Emboldened by a Supreme Court decision in 2008, which affirmed the constitutionality of an Indiana photo identification requirement for voting, Republicans began in January 2011 to implement a strategy to enact similar laws in targeted states, using the Indiana law as its model. Their strategy is to target African American and Latino voters – historically Democrats – to make it as difficult as possible for them to be able to vote in November’s presidential election. The Republican strategy also targets seniors, the disabled and low-income Americans, for whom the Democratic Party’s positions on issues like Medicare, Social Security, and social benefit programs are more favorable.

In October 2011, the Brennan Center for Justice at the NYU Law School did a study on the impact of these new state laws, and issued a report stating that they will make it more difficult for as many as five million eligible Americans to vote. In a close race, which the November elections are projected to be, this could tip the balance. (Remember, Bush-Gore came down to fewer than one million votes, if you don’t count all the corruption of Florida election officials).

A similar photo-ID requirement in Florida in 2000 had the impact of suppressing black and low-income voters, as did the 2008 Indiana law.

The Brennan Center report points out that 25 percent of African Americans do not have government photo IDs; 18 percent of senior citizens over 65 are without the IDs; a significantly large number of young people between the ages of 18 and 25 (the age cohort that overwhelmingly supported Obama four years ago) lack the type of photo IDs required.

Ten states have enacted voter identification laws since January of last year: Alabama, Kansas, Georgia, Indiana, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin. According to the Brennan report, of the ten states with the largest African American voter turnouts, five now have voter ID laws. Of the states with the largest Latino populations, seven have passed voter-restricting laws. Of the nine states specifically covered by the Voting Rights Act, which did away with obstructions to voting and thereby gave blacks the right to vote, six have passed the voter ID law.

Stated simply, the photo ID laws are a rollback to the Jim Crow era.

Obtaining a government-issued photo ID seems a simple matter, but the Brennan Center found that the majority of those affected by these new laws have no easy access to transportation for the necessary travel to get the IDs. In many cases, individuals in low-paying jobs cannot afford to miss work for the day or two days it would take to get their IDs where access to transportation is a major issue. For those without cars and without access to public transportation, these laws make it almost impossible for them to meet the requirement to be able to vote.

These laws, like the laws of the Jim Crow era, reflect the attitude that certain groups of people don’t matter because they’re not white and don’t deserve to be given the same consideration as the rest of us. Their rights just don’t matter.

Republican leaders can crow all they want about love of country and saving democracy, but I’m not buying it for one second, not when they perniciously conspire to render whole segments of the population insignificant, much like the South did during the Jim Crow era. When they establish laws that smell of the same bigotry of the Klan-controlled South, you tell me this: just how different are the attitudes expressed in these laws from those that created poll taxes and literacy tests to keep black voters from the voting booths?

Democracy can thrive only when all of its citizens are given an equal opportunity to participate in its most fundamental process, the right to vote, and when that right is denied its citizenry, what kind of a democracy are we really?

As a civil rights organization, the JACL should be concerned about such brazen attacks on one of the most sacred rights of a democracy, and as Americans, we should do what we each can to stop such abuse. ■

*John Tateishi is a past JACL national director.*

## SERIES OF WORKSHOPS HELD AT SFVJACC

By Patricia E. Takayama

Japanese Americans Mobilizing in Asian America, a daylong series of workshops, was held July 15 at the San Fernando Valley JA Community Center.

Traci Ishigo, the student body president at the University of California, Irvine, created the program.

Ishigo had the support of the JACL to present the program, which introduced the JA community to various political considerations and examined individual identities and attitudes toward those political issues. The program challenged participants to look at preconceived notions, set aside long-held ideas and formulate a broader, more encompassing political perspective.

Natasha Saelua, associate director of the University of California, Los Angeles’ Community Programs office, brought a Pacific Islander perspective to the panel.

Also, on the same panel were: Jessica Kawai with the Little Tokyo Service Center, Seniors Program and a current Miss Nisei Week princess; Yuka Ogina, a UCLA student organizer; and Marissa Kitazawa, PSW JACL staff who spoke about the Bridging Communities program that united Asians with Muslim students whose families faced a similar situation post Sept. 11th as that of the 1942 Japanese American community.

Also leading the gender workshop was Riku Matsuda, a senior intergroup relations specialist for the Los Angeles County Human Rights Commission.

One workshop issue rarely discussed in the Asian American community is services for persons with disabilities. Patty Kinaga, an employment law attorney and chair of the Asian Pacific Islanders with Disability of California (APIDC), a nonprofit organization, and Peter Wong, a doctoral candidate at UCLA’s School of Public Policy, led this workshop.

They reported that compared to the rest of America, the Asian and Pacific Islander community is about 30 years behind. They noted that this is also the case in Japan where the shame associated with and attaching to the families with disabled family members makes the Asian community reluctant to seek out assistance.

As the state and nation have passed legislation to insure fairness for individuals with disabilities, they emphasize this issue needs to be brought out of the shadows, especially as our Sansei generation is getting older and are likely to need greater access to these kinds of services. ■

## PSW JACL INTROS KATAROU PRESERVATION PROGRAM

By Patricia E. Takayama

PSW JACL staffers Marissa Kitazawa, Eri Kameyama and intern Molly Serizawa have introduced *Katarou*, a pilot historical preservation program with a focus on San Fernando Valley Japanese Americans [*Katarou* is Japanese for let’s share stories.]

The 10-week program is designed to familiarize participants with their fellow class members by sharing their individual stories and experiences through fun games and interactive exercises. These activities help build trust and understanding of intergenerational concerns and issues.

This year’s program participants ranged in ages from 15 to 80. The participants were Nisei, Kibei, Sansei, Yonsei, Gosei and a young Shin Issei. The diverse perspectives of the members have provided the organizers and participants an opportunity to interact and learn from each other not just from the lecturers and leaders.

JACL national executive director, Priscilla Ouchida, shared insightful legal history, in part from her own experience while working in Washington, D.C.

Our final project will be to produce a film, PowerPoint presentation or artwork that illustrates the history of Japanese Americans in the San Fernando Valley.

The culmination session will be held at the San Fernando Japanese American Community Center on Aug. 23. For more information, visit [www.jaclpsw.org](http://www.jaclpsw.org) or call 213/626-4471. ■



# THE JACL AWARDS

## LUNCHEON SPOTLIGHTS ON SEATTLE APAS

By Christine McFadden, P.C. Correspondent

SEATTLE — The spotlight was on Seattle as representatives of the Emerald City swept this year's JACL Awards Luncheon.

Lori Matsukawa, co-anchor of KING 5 TV evening news in Seattle, and Akagi, convention chair and current co-president of the Seattle chapter, were honored at the Hyatt Regency's ballroom in Bellevue, Wash. on July 6.

Tom Ikeda, founder and executive director of Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project, also a Seattleite, was master of ceremonies. He introduced the program by remembering a past Seattle legend: Gordon Hirabayashi.

"Gordon was the last JA in Seattle," said Ikeda to the audience, speaking of Hirabayashi's protest against the curfew and Executive Order 9066. "Gordon had incredible courage."

Hirabayashi died in January.

Other award recipients include Matsukawa who received the Seattle JACL Community Achievement Award, a new recognition presented by former Washington State Representative Kip Tokuda.

"I accept this award with great humility because I am in the company of so many accomplished individuals and dignitaries," said Matsukawa. "You are all really inspiring to me."

Matsukawa has covered several milestones in JA history such as the redress effort, Hirabayashi's coram nobis case, the awarding of medals of honor by President Bill Clinton to many JA soldiers and their families, and the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, 100th Battalion, and Military Intelligence Service.

"It's been my honor to cover these kinds of stories because it truly is the first draft of history," she said. "These events that I have witnessed, these people that I have talked to like Gordon, are going to be the things that people read about in history books, or on the internet, for years to come."

Matsukawa was a board chair for the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington, president of the Asian Counseling and Referral Service, and founder of the Asian American Journalist's Association.

"Lori Matsukawa is ... arguably the most recognizable API in the community and one of the most well-respected," said Tokuda. "She is clearly one of the most understated public figures I have been honored to meet."

Matsukawa was recognized for both her national and local community involvement.

He additionally spoke to the caliber of her character.

"She's always been respectful, has always maintained herself with integrity," Tokuda said. "I always marvel at how upbeat she is and how she continues to see the world and the glass as being half-full."

### Standing Up Then and Now: Elaine Akagi

Akagi, the 2012 convention chair, was aware of everything happening at the convention, except for her award. Kept in the dark until former JACL National President David Kawamoto recognized her, Akagi accepted her surprise JACLer of the Biennium award.

"I don't know what to say now," Akagi laughed. "Thank you so much."

Ikeda joked with the audience on the tricky logistics of awarding the one in charge of the entire conference in secrecy.

"I was trying to figure out ... if it was such a big secret, how would the person know to actually be at this event? But it was safe, you get the convention chair and you know she's



PHOTO COURTESY GARY MAYEDA



PHOTO COURTESY MARK DODGE

Tom Ikeda (above), Densho's executive director, was the master of ceremonies at the awards luncheon. Then-JACL National President David Kawamoto (left) presented the JACLer of the Biennium Award to Elaine Akagi, convention chair.



PHOTO COURTESY GARY MAYEDA

Lori Matsukawa, co-anchor of KING 5 TV, received the Seattle JACL Community Achievement Award.

going to be here," he laughed. "That was tricky."

In addition to being a convention regular, Akagi has chaired convention committees, served as district governor, was selected as the governor's caucus chair, has served as a delegate in over 15 biannual conventions, and has been president of two different chapters for a total of over seven terms. She also serves as the Pacific Northwest District Treasurer.

In sum, Akagi has devoted more than 50 years of service to the JACL in addition to working as an "esteemed educator," said Kawamoto.

"Her history of service has been so significant," he continued, adding that her years of dedication "do not even begin to show Akagi value as a person."

Akagi's many years of leadership in the JACL came through in her many levels of volunteering. As chapter president in Detroit in 1982 when Vincent Chin was murdered, Akagi helped with the recent "Vincent Chin 30: Standing Up Then and Now" Google Hangout event in June in his memory, proving literally the importance of standing up then and now.

"We couldn't do our work without great supporters like Lori Matsukawa or without the volunteers that we have like Akagi," said JACL National Director Priscilla Ouchida. "I want to thank all of you here for all that you have done for the organization. Everyone here deserves an award."

The George Inagaki Chapter Citizenship Award did not have a recipient this year.

"This award is important because it recognizes a chapter's effort in the betterment of society as a whole through its activities and programs," said Amy Watanabe, president of the Venice-Culver JACL. "Unfortunately this year, we did not receive any applicants."

Ikeda encouraged the audience to ensure that this award had a recipient next year.

"That's a challenge to the chapters," he said. "Do something amazing this year. Get that award next year." ■



# JACL CONVENTION: HONORING THE PRESENT, THANKING THE PAST



PHOTO COURTESY MARK DODGE

Former Sec. of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta (*right*) presented Frank Fuji (*left*) with the Japanese American of the Biennium Award.



Then-JACL National President David Kawamoto (*left*) presents the President's Award to U.S. Rep. Jim McDermott.



Karen Narasaki, former president and executive director of AAJC, received the Edison Uno Civil Rights Award.

**Important figures in the APA community and beyond were recognized for their commitment to the advancement of civil rights at the Sayonara Banquet.**

*By Christine Fukushima, P.C. Correspondent*

**K**eeping in line with its mission to “secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry,” prominent community leaders who have worked toward realizing that goal were honored at the 2012 JACL convention’s Sayonara Banquet.

Lori Matsukawa, co-anchor at KING 5 News in Seattle, served as master of ceremonies, while the Minidoka Swing Band provided musical entertainment. The Sayonara Banquet provided a lively setting for the conferral of some of the JACL’s most prestigious awards.

As the recipient of the President’s Award, Rep. Jim McDermott (WA-7) was honored for his contributions to the advancement of the human and civil rights and welfare of the Asian Pacific American community.

A vocal critic of the National Defense Authorization Act, a measure that would empower the president to detain American citizens without due process, this year McDermott also introduced the Justice for Wards Cove Workers Act to correct injustices against Asian American workers by a Seattle fish processing company in the 1970s.

McDermott recounted learning about the Japanese American incarceration from his college roommate, who had been interned at Tule Lake.

“Keep pushing Congress,” he said in closing, encouraging the audience to continue pressing for progressive change.

Two prominent Japanese American figures were honored with the Japanese American of the Biennium Award at the Sayonara banquet.

As the JACL’s highest public award, the Japanese American of the Biennium Award has been presented to an American of Japanese ancestry at each biennial national convention since 1950.

The logo for the redress campaign—three kanji in a circle encased in barbed wire, representing the Issei, Nisei and

Sansei who were incarcerated in WWII concentration camps, and future generations of Japanese Americans symbolized by the circle—was a visual display of Biennium Award recipient Frank Fuji’s strong passion for social justice.

“I remember when we were, for 10 years, trying to get the redress bill passed [and] having that logo that Frank had designed and the JACL using it as an imprint on all of their publication materials—it really meant a great deal to have that kind of symbolism before us to be able to show what redress meant in terms of the Issei, the Nisei, Sansei, and . . . future generations,” said Norman Mineta, former Secretary of Transportation and 1967 Japanese American of the Biennium recipient.

Fuji fell in love with art when he was in grade school, and he went on to get his degree in fine arts at the University of Washington. He continues to make art for community organizations. His latest work was a “dragon with a golf ball in the mouth” for the Year of the Dragon Nikkei Golf Tournament.

“I’ve always been a JACLER, but I just thought that I should contribute in my own way, you know, something visual instead of talking about it,” said Fuji in an interview after the awards were conferred. “I’m glad that people could identify with my logo.”

On behalf of the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee and the Seattle NVC Foundation, Tom Kometani, commander of the NVC, and Debbie Kashino, president of the NVC Foundation, accepted the second Japanese American of the Biennium Award.

“We stand on the shoulders of all Nisei veterans, who through their valor and patriotism and sacrifice, have excelled in educating our community and our country as a whole about the lessons learned from the Japanese American experience,” said Kometani.

Accomplishments of the two organizations include organizing the Seattle Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony, dedicating a memorial wall for 4,000 Nikkei veterans and WWII internees, and maintaining a Speakers Bureau which has reached more than 16,000 students, veterans, and other community members since 2005.

“Many of us have been able to achieve heights that would not have been imaginable . . . It’s not because of our accomplishments but because we were standing on the shoulders of the giants who had preceded us,” said Mineta, who lauded the veterans for their efforts.

## Edison Uno Civil Rights Award

Named in honor of Edison Uno, one of the first to call for the government to redress Japanese Americans for the wartime incarceration, the award recognizes organizations or individuals for their leadership in the field of civil rights.

As the 2012 recipient, Karen Narasaki gave an emotional acceptance speech, thanking the JACL for the work that it has done to help her grandmother become a citizen and gain her acceptance to Yale through affirmative action.

In her speech, Narasaki recounted how her father “left his mother behind in a barbed wire concentration camp to risk his life to fight with the courageous 442nd, to defend the ideals of equality and justice that he was being denied.”

“He had faith in the United States and believed that Americans could and needed to be better,” she said. “And like my dad, I believe that Japanese Americans have a vital role in helping America to achieve the more perfect union envisioned in our Constitution.”

Named among the 100 most powerful women in the capital by Washingtonian Magazine, Narasaki was the president and executive director of the Asian American Justice Center.

In 1992, she became the JACL Washington representative, where she spoke out against the stereotypical portrayals of Asians in the media.

“I feel like JACL’s one of my families,” added Narasaki in a post-speech interview.

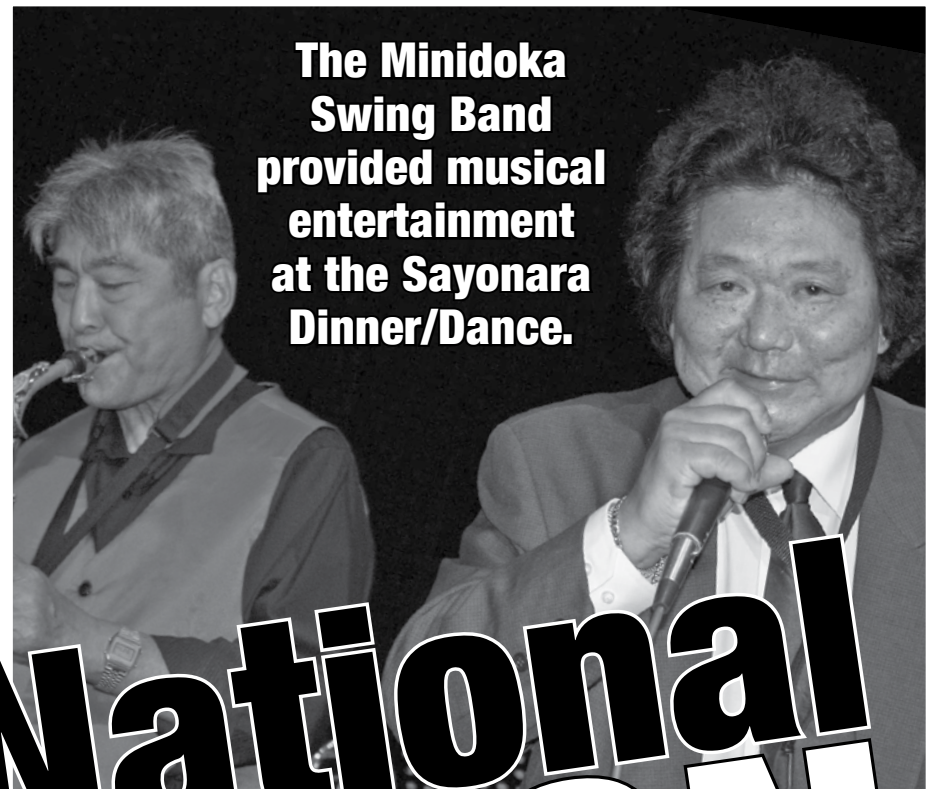
After working on “opening up” the political realm, Narasaki is currently working towards promoting corporate diversity in the private sector.

“Asian Americans have made a lot of progress, but we’re still hitting the glass ceiling and I want to try to see if we can do something about that,” said Narasaki. ■





The Oratorical contestants pose for a picture.

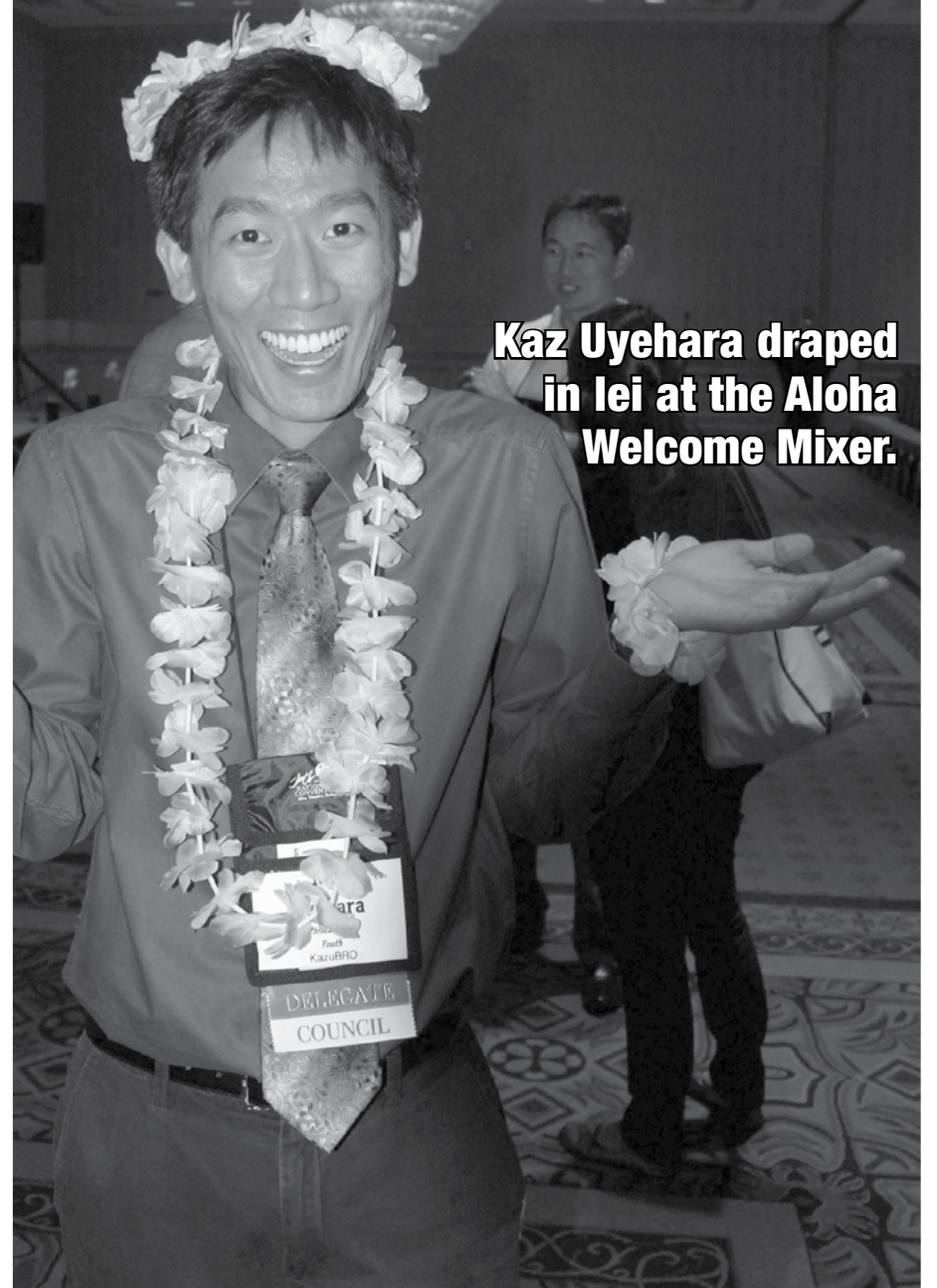


The Minidoka Swing Band provided musical entertainment at the Sayonara Dinner/Dance.

# 2012 JACL National CONVENTION



Seattle NVC commanders Keith Yamaguchi (left) and Dale Kaku (right) served as the color guard at the Sayonara Dinner.



Kaz Uyehara draped in lei at the Aloha Welcome Mixer.



The 2010-12 JACL national board of directors were honored for their service.





**U.S. Rep. Mike Honda (*right*) at the JACL national convention.**

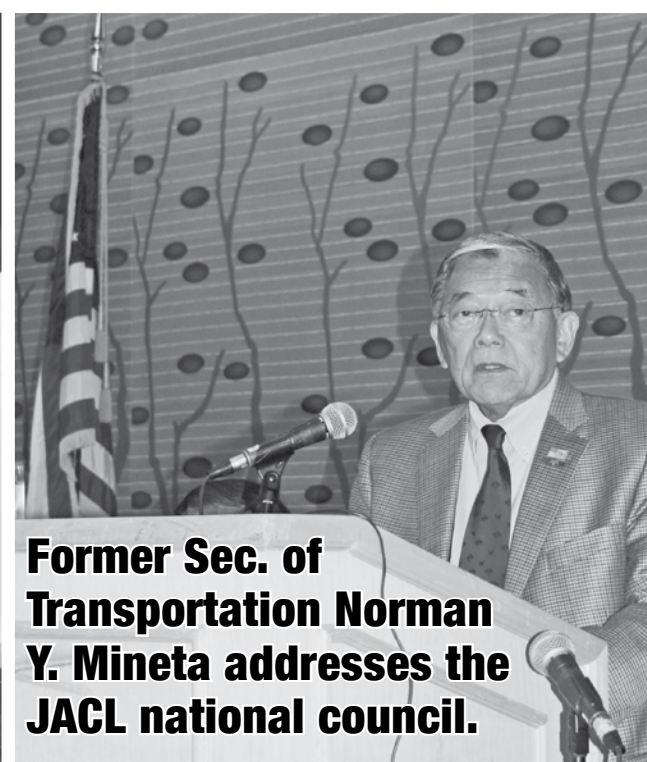
**JACL National Director Priscilla Ouchida (*right*) presents the Edison Uno Civil Rights Award to Karen Narasaki (*left*).**



**JACL youth attend a convention workshop.**



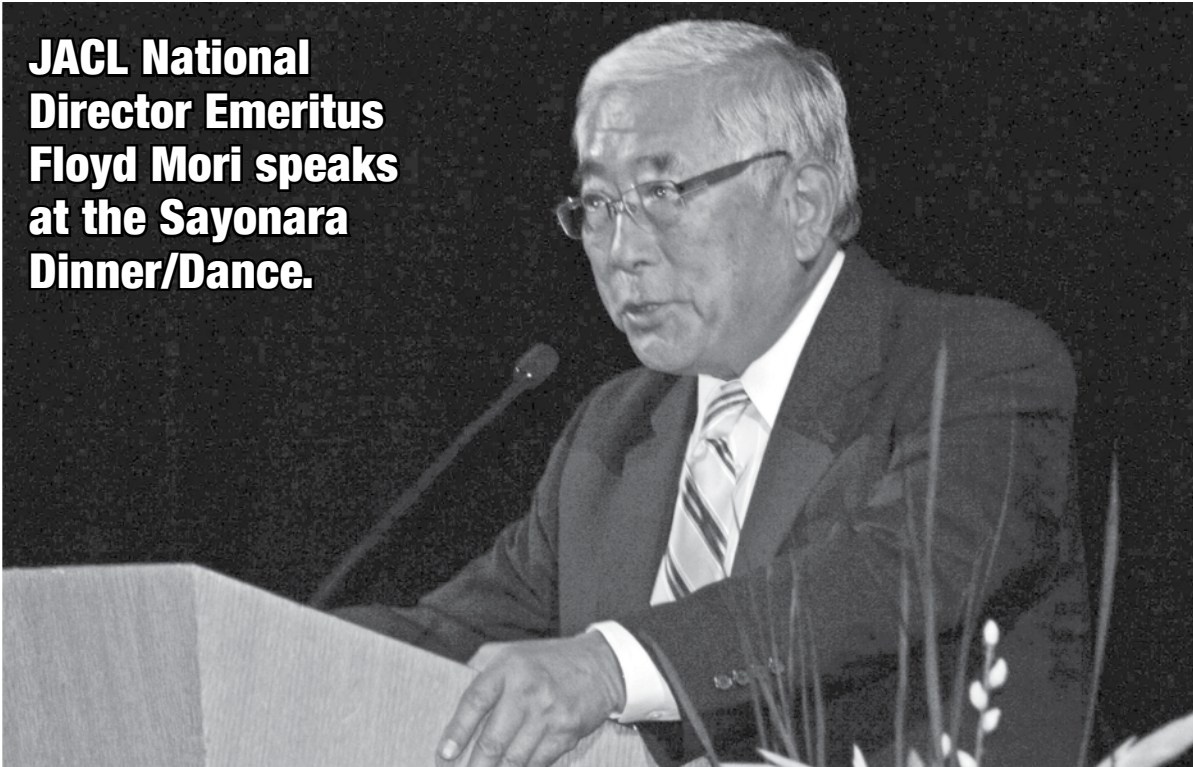
**→ The 2012-14 JACL national board is sworn in.**



**Former Sec. of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta addresses the JACL national council.**



**JACL National Director Emeritus Floyd Mori speaks at the Sayonara Dinner/Dance.**



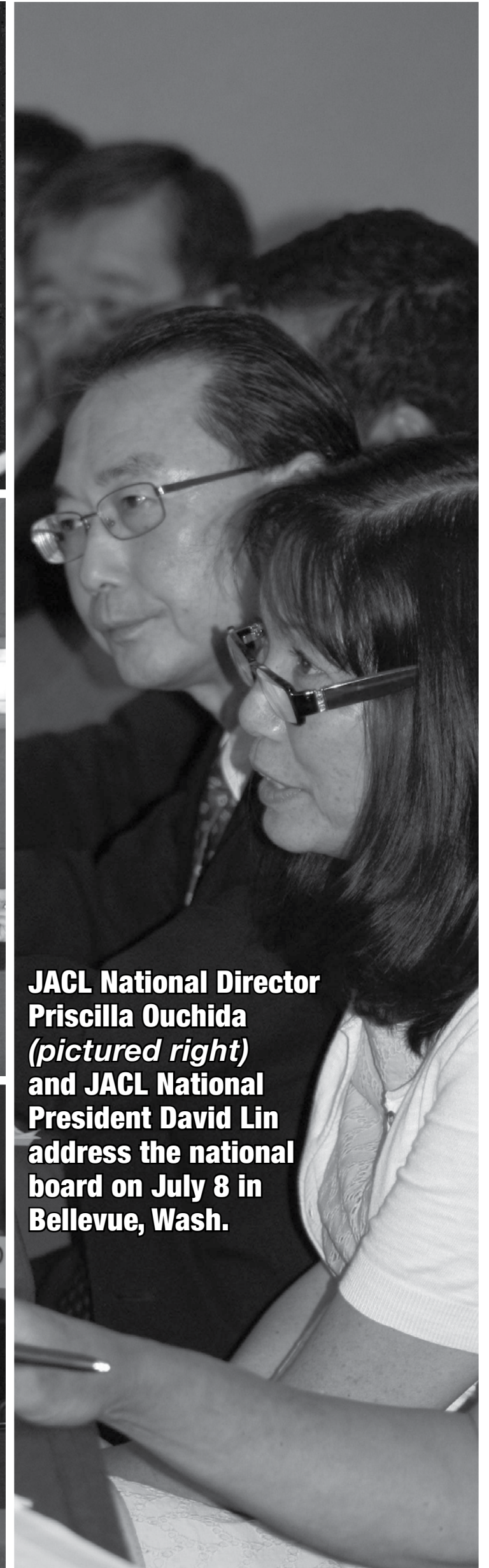
**Phillip Ozaki leads a membership workshop.**



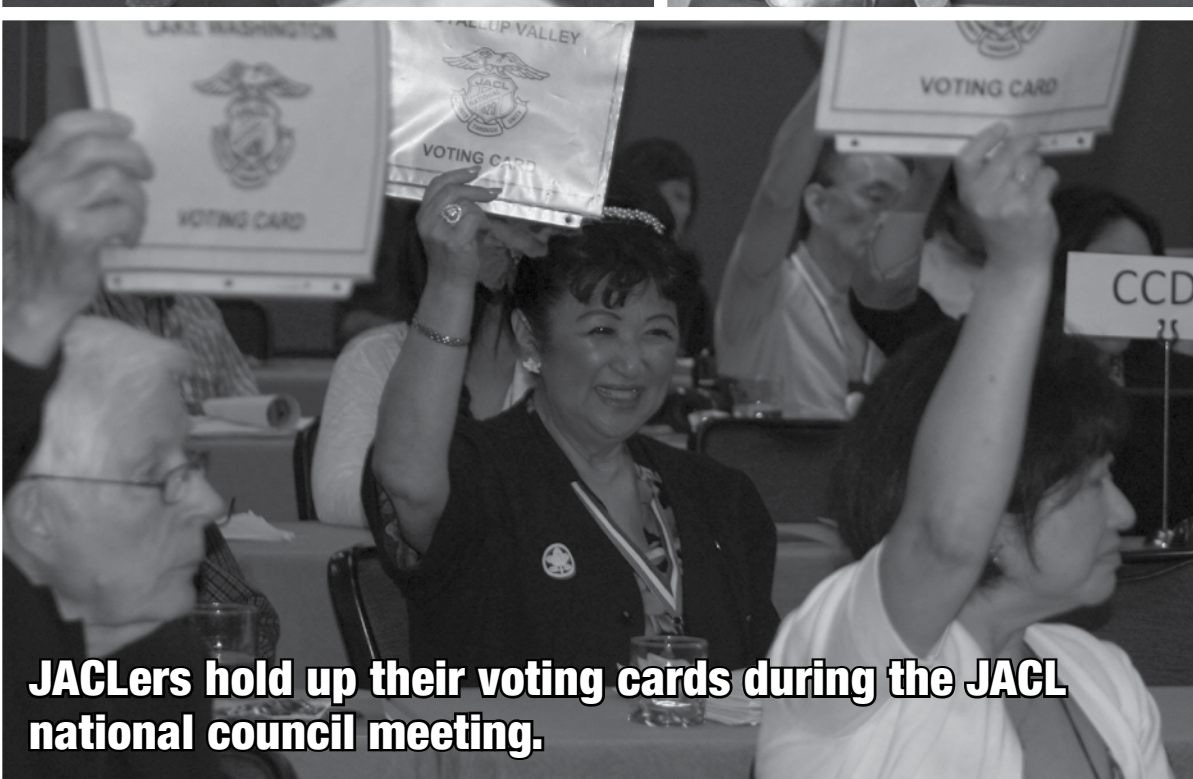
**The JACL national board recognizes Japan's Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki (left).**



**JACL National Director Priscilla Ouchida (pictured right) and JACL National President David Lin address the national board on July 8 in Bellevue, Wash.**



**JACLers hold up their voting cards during the JACL national council meeting.**

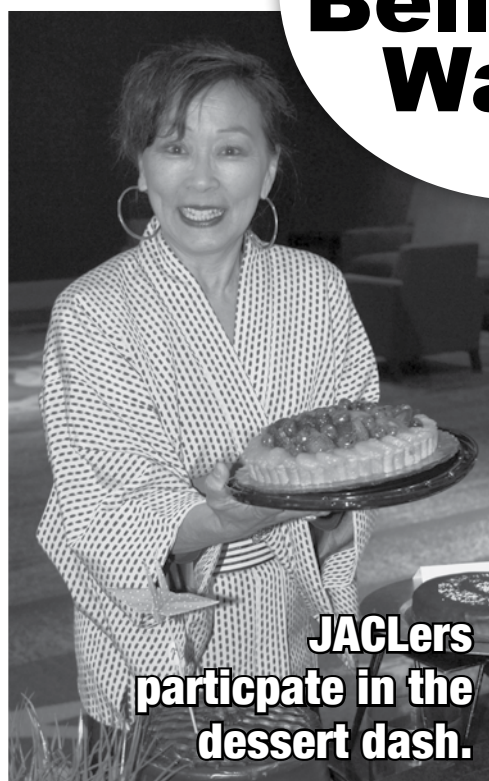






**Elsie Taniguchi leads dancers at the Aloha Welcome Mixer.**

**The JACL in Bellevue, Wash.**



**JACLers participate in the dessert dash.**



**Washington's Japanese Queen Scholarship princesses Sylvie Shiodaki and Taryn Imanishi share a laugh.**



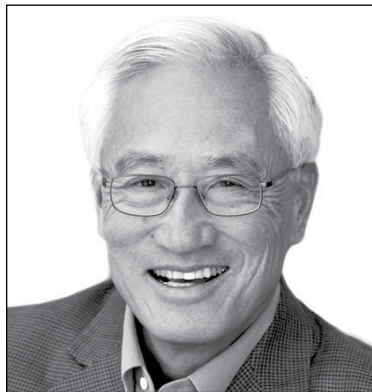
**Devin Yoshikawa at the NYSC meeting.**



**Anne and Larry Oda at the Aloha Mixer.**



## COMMENTARY



# THE BUZZ FROM BELLEVUE

By Steve Okamoto

First, regarding the 43rd JACL national convention that concluded July 8 in Bellevue, Wash., kudos to Elaine Akagi and her fabulous committee for a job well done.

Much was accomplished during those 2-1/2 days, most notably the election of David Lin to the office of national president. Congratulations, David.

Another achievement was the approval of the 2013-14 budget. The budget was approved in record time, thanks to the detailed preparation by JACL staff. Some of us veteran JACLers remember when we had to return to the business sessions after the Sayonara Banquet to continue deliberating and, finally, pass the budget.

One issue that was circulating amongst the delegates that created the most buzz was the knowledge that JACL had recently been the recipient of not one, not two, but three trust distributions totaling almost \$1.5 million. These distributions were made possible by generous folks who named JACL in their estate plans.

Because of the knowledge that we were beneficiaries of such generous testamentary gifts, many convention-goers were interested in learning how they, too, could include JACL in their plans.

Many years ago, the Planned Giving Committee created a wonderful brochure that de-

scribed the accomplishments of the JACL and how a planned gift could ensure that the good work would continue and that the donor could leave a legacy that would last a lifetime.

That brochure was distributed to each delegate with the hope that they would return to their respective chapters and give it to members who might be good candidates to make a planned gift. I emphasized that they did not have to explain the benefits of making that gift, but that I would personally speak to their members or the members' advisers and explain the tax and other financial benefits related to the gift.

I also suggested how important it was that the leaders of our organization fully support the concept of planned giving. I challenged our new board members that in order to "talk the talk" they needed to "walk the walk", meaning they needed to commit to making a planned gift themselves. I am happy to report that new JACL national President David Lin signed a letter of support, as did outgoing President David Kawamoto.

I urge any of you who would like to support the organization today and tomorrow to consider a planned gift whether it is a beneficiary designation in your living trust or insurance policy, a bequest in your will or creating a charitable remainder trust to shelter gains from real estate or a stock portfolio. ■

*Steve Okamoto is chair of the national JACL Planned Giving Committee. For more information, contact him at [Steve.Okamoto1@gmail.com](mailto:Steve.Okamoto1@gmail.com) or 650/468-8184.*

## VERY TRULY YOURS



# SEATTLE JACL'S BONANZA AT BELLEVUE

By Harry K. Honda

SALT LAKE CITY's Raymond S. Uno, national JACL president from 1970-72, would name people he had met at chapter and district council events in his *Pacific Citizen* columns. Borrowing from Uno's example, I'd like to follow suit, but from the July 5-8 convention in Bellevue, Wash. (At my first trip as *P.C.* editor to Seattle in 1962, I met the late Elmer Ogawa, a photojournalist who pointed out Bellevue, where the

Japanese grew strawberries. In fact, prewar Japanese farms and dairies fed the communities around Puget Sound.)

Slipping into the morning national board session July 5, I sat between Hugh Bursleson, retired U.S. Foreign Service officer (and current *P.C.* editorial board rep from PNWDC) and Carol Kawamoto from San Diego, (just-appointed *P.C.* editorial board chair). Her husband, David, chaired the meeting.

Alongside David were his cabinet members: Secretary-Treasurer Larry Oda of Monterey; Membership VP David T. Lin of New York, who was elected national president this year; psychologist Ron Katsuyama from Dayton, Ohio; legal counsel Floyd D. Shimomura of Sacramento (our first Sansei national president, 1982-84); outbound national JACL executive director Floyd Mori, who transformed JACL into a major Asian American anchor in Washington, D.C.; and his successor, Priscilla A. Ouchida.

Facing the national officers around the long table were JACL staff Business Manager Clyde Izumi, from San Francisco's JACL HQ; PNW District Gov. Chip Larouche (caucus chair) from Portland; PSW District Gov. Ken Inouye, from Selanoco; NC-WNP District Gov. David Unruhe from Placer County; CCDC District Gov. Marcia Chung from Fresno, Calif.; IDC District Gov. Jeanette Misaka from Salt Lake City (her husband, Tats, was a prior IDC governor); MDC District Gov. Stephanie Nitahara from Chicago; EDC District Gov. Toshi Abe from Philadelphia; and *P.C.* Board Chair Judith Aono from Diablo Valley in Northern California.

People I knew sitting in the room or passing through included Mark Kobayashi (past secretary-treasurer) from San Jose; indefatigable MDC regional director Bill Yoshino (who often served as interim national director in the past); Milo Yoshino (TriValley from Northern Cal); Ron Yoshino; scuba diver Stanley Kanzaki from New York; Greg Marutani (his parents and Uncle Bill hail from rural Seattle-Tacoma); ever-present T/Sgt. Paul Bannai of Gardena (MIS), who had assisted Australian forces with surrenders in Bali, Java and East Timor in 1945 and was the first Nisei assemblyman in California (1973); and U.S. Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif. (We're not related.)

REGISTERED DELEGATES each received a "huge" tote bag (biggest yet in JACL convention history) filled with goodies. On page 37 of "A Century of Puget Sound Nikkei His-

tory," a 1936 convention photo shows two men up front and unnamed. At left is Dr. Thomas Yatabe of Fresno (the first nationally elected JACL president, 1934-38, and Saburo Kido, co-founder of San Francisco JACL in 1927 and wartime national president. 1940-46 (only three-term national president).

The chock-full convention program (82 pages) had schedules, a map of the hotel, greetings (none from President Obama), briefings for the 12 workshops, achievements of JACLer of Biennium honorees: logo designer Frank Fujii and Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee member; a page listing generous sponsors (State Farm, AT&T, AARP, Lilly, Comcast, Union Bank, National JACL Credit Union, JACL Insurance Services and Administrators, Mickle-shoot Indian Tribe [yes, they run several casinos], Sony and Southwest Airlines.

Exhibitors at first were in one big room, but Living Well booths were added, stretching toward Hyatt's side entranceway. Edited by Arlene Oki, it was a prize-winner.

LIKE HIS LATE sister Etsu Masaoka, the participation and presence of Norm Mineta — the former congressman and Cabinet member — has become a JACL perennial. The Hiroshi-Grayce Uyehara legacy lives on through their son Paul M. from Philadelphia and his Yonsei son. Lillian Kimura was a New York chapter alternate.

Shea Aoki, who has attended JACL conventions without a break since the 1930s, handed me her book, "Aoki and Arai: Two Pioneering Families of Seattle," as told to writer Ken Mochizuki. I learned Clarence Arai was married to Yone Utsunomiya of Santa Maria, Calif., who had organized the local American-Born Citizens Club (ABC Club) that eventually became a JACL chapter with Clarence's assistance. Shea's connection with Clarence Arai stems from the fact that her husband Jiro and Clarence grew up together in Seattle. She often reminded me she had much to tell about Clarence, and this book proves to have a delightful pace.

What stopped me was a snapshot identifying Mas Satow of Los Angeles (national JACL director, 1946-1973) as the gentleman named above in my first paragraph of this column. Oh, well.

Plus — Convention Chair Elaine Akagi; regional directors Patty Wada from San Francisco and Kate Yoshitomi of Seattle; "Power of Words" panelists Professor Lane Hirabayashi from UCLA, Mako Nakagawa of Seattle, and Barbara Takei from Sacramento, Calif.; media PR expert Debra Nakatomi from Los Angeles; JACL membership coordinator Phil Ozaki; Ford Program coordinator for JACL Christine Munteanu at Chicago's regional office; past district governors Bob Taniguchi from Merced, Calif., Alan Nishi from French Camp, Calif., Tats Misaka and Larry Grant from Intermountain; TV's George Takei of "Star Trek" and "The Apprentice" fame; and a past *P.C.* board member Elsie Leilani Taniguchi of Puyallup Valley, Wash. ■

*Harry K. Honda is the Pacific Citizen editor emeritus.*



# JACL HOSTS DINNER FOR NYSC

By Christine McFadden, P.C. Correspondent

SEATTLE — Demonstrating their commitment to the younger generation of the Japanese American community, former Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta and Rep. Mike Honda (D-Calif.) were present July 5 at the National Youth Student Council dinner, which took place during the 2012 national convention.

Attendance among JACL youth was higher than in previous years, according to youth leaders. "Turnout was a lot better than we thought it would be," said Jeffrey Moy of JACL's Eastern District Council. "It's nice to see a lot of faces that we've never seen before." He noted there was a large representation from the West Coast.

Attending her fifth national convention was Kaila Yoshitani, chair of youth events for the convention and a delegate from the Puyallup Valley chapter. She estimated 53 young people in attendance.

"That is a great turnout," said Yoshitani, a junior at the University of Washington who has been involved with NYSC since she was 15 and was attending her fifth national convention. "I'm just surprised at how many youth were here and how many voting delegates, which is really amazing." She estimated one-third of the youth present were delegates.

Matthew Farrells, who was elected national secretary treasurer at the convention, was also pleased with the high numbers. "I'm always impressed by the turnout at the convention," said Farrells, former national youth chair. "I'm happy to see that mix of those from the West Coast and East Coast and Midwest represented."

The ages of the young people ranged from middle school to college graduates. "The diversity of age is surprising," said Corey Suyematsu, a yonsei.

Suyematsu, who hails from Portland and is half-Japanese, also noted how there was a diverse mix of ethnicities as well. Last summer he volunteered at Hapa artists Kip Fulbeck's "Part Asian, 100% Hapa" art exhibit at the Oregon Nikkei Endowment last summer.

At the NYSC dinner, the youths had a chance to mingle with Mineta and Honda, and were exposed to the inner workings of the JACL and updated on the proposed changes to the JACL bylaws and resolutions.

With the large number youth in attendance of mixed heritage, Moy noted that this generation seemed to be more open to talking about API identity, which was a focus at a recent youth summit in Portland, Ore. Moy, who is one-quarter Chinese, is also the program manager for professional leadership development for OCA.



Jeffrey Moy, who was elected the national youth/student chair for 2012-14, addressed the youth at the 2012 JACL national convention's NYSC welcome dinner.

Farrells, who is also of mixed heritage, addressed the NYSC throughout the weekend, stressing youth leadership development programming.

The convention allowed for many mixed-race youths to expand their network among other JA youths and get to in touch with their own API identity and history.

"It means a connection to my JA heritage," said Yoshitani with regard to what being at the convention meant to her. "I get to meet people from around the country. It shows me a different perspective. It gives me a chance to participate in things I would never do outside of the organization."

Jordan Shellmire, a freshman at Warner Pacific College in Portland, Ore., attended the convention to learn about the inner workings of the JACL. He attended his first convention in Chicago two years ago.

Lennon Boutwell, a Portland senior, was at the JACL convention to network. "I'm just excited to network, meet new people from the JACL," Boutwell said.

Emi Lee, also from Portland and a freshman at Smith College, wanted to observe other JACL youth from outside her chapter.

"It's cool to think what other people do," Lee said. "We don't even know what's going on there [at other JACL chapters]; we only know what's going on in Portland."

Farrells says he remembers attending his first conference in Chicago in 2010 and becoming inspired to get more involved in the JACL. From his position as national secretary treasurer, Farrells said he would still be able to impact the NYSC from "a different capacity" and had high hopes for the incoming JACL youth leadership.

"I think we've done a great job in improving since 2010 when Devon [Yoshikawa] and I took office," said Farrells, speaking of his National Youth Council Representative counterpart. "But the sky's the limit. I think we could do more." ■

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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS\*

# CALENDAR

PHOTO: STACY IWATA

**Olympia Bon Odori Festival**  
**OLYMPIA, WA**  
**Aug. 18, 5-9 p.m.**  
**Olympia Community Center**  
**222 Columbia St., NW**  
 Olympia's 26th annual Bon Odori Japanese Dance Festival is sponsored by the JACL Olympia chapter and the Kato Sister City Organization. Attendees can participate in Japanese folk dance and listen to taiko drummers. Food booths will be available.  
**Info: Call 360/791-3295 or 360/556-7562.**

## >>EAST

**Isamu Noguchi: Bridging Cultures Lecture**  
**CONCORD, MA**  
**Nov. 4, 2 p.m.**  
**Concord Art Association**  
**37 Lexington Rd.**  
 New England JACL and the Concord Art Association will host an illustrated talk by Robert J. Maeda. He will discuss the life and work of Isamu Noguchi, a critically acclaimed sculptor.  
**Info: For reservations, call the Concord Art Association at 978/369-2578.**

## >>NCWNP

**Yesterday's Farmer: Planting an American Dream Art Exhibit**  
**SAN JOSE, CA**  
**Currently on exhibit**  
**Japanese American Museum of San Jose**  
**535 N. 5th St.**  
 This is an agriculture exhibit about Japanese immigrant families in the early 1900s. It showcases how Issei adapted intensive farming techniques to produce a high yield of flowers, fruits and vegetables in a limited space.  
**Info: Visit [www.jamsj.org](http://www.jamsj.org) or call 408/294-3138**

**J-Sei Family Festival**  
**EL CERRITO, CA**  
**Sept. 9, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
**Cerrito Community Center**  
**7007 Moeser Lane**  
 This free family festival will feature Japanese cultural activities, demonstrations, food and fun for people of all ages. There will also be sushi making, sake tasting, origami making, anime drawing and other activities.  
**Info: Contact J-Sei at [jsei-events@gmail.com](mailto:jsei-events@gmail.com) or call 510/848-3560.**

**Midori Kai's 12th Annual Bou-**

**tique**  
**MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA**  
**Sept. 8, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
**Mountain View Buddhist Temple Gymnasium**  
**575 N. Shoreline Blvd.**  
 Midori Kai, Inc., a nonprofit professional business women's organization, will feature its 12th annual arts and crafts boutique with works of Asian American artists and crafters. All proceeds are given to Asian Americans for Community Involvement, the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, National Japanese American Historical Society, Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center and Yu Ai Kai.

**Info: Contact Phyllis Osaki 925/596-1770 or Marsha Baird at 510/579-1518.**

**Fresno County Reads Farewell To Manzanar**  
**FRESNO, CA**  
**Aug. 24**  
**Fresno Art Museum**  
**2233 North First St.**  
 Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, co-author of the book "Farewell to Manzanar," will lead a talk about her book. The book is also authored by James D. Houston.  
**Info: Call 559/441-4221 or visit [www.fresnoartmuseum.org](http://www.fresnoartmuseum.org)**

## >>PSW

**Xploration Lab 2012 Art Exhibit**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA**  
**Through Aug. 26**  
**Japanese American National Museum**  
**369 East First St.**  
 This is an interactive exhibit with hands-on activities designed to engage audiences of all ages in an exploration of culture and identity.  
**Info: Visit [www.janm.org](http://www.janm.org) or call 213/625-0414**

**Manzanar School Reunion**

**LAS VEGAS, NV**  
**Aug. 20-21**  
**California Hotel and Casino**  
**12 East Ogden Ave.**  
 Plans for the 2012 Manzanar School Reunion are underway. Everyone who attended schools in Manzanar as well as those interested in Manzanar are encouraged to attend the reunion. The deadline for registration is July 15 and is open to those who attended school at Manzanar as well as family, friends and others interested in the history of Manzanar.  
**Info: Call Sam Ono at 310/327-5568 or Grace Deguchi at 310/968-1666.**

**Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute Free Legal Clinic**  
**GARDENA, CA**  
**Sept. 16, 1 to 3 p.m.**  
**Japanese Cultural Institute**  
**1964 West 162nd St.**  
 The Japanese American Bar Association will host a free legal clinic, which will provide attendees in need with free legal assistance. Volunteer attorneys will be available for free brief consultations.  
**Info: Call 310/324-6611 or visit <http://jci-gardena.org>**

**Yoshio C. Nakamura Art Exhibit**  
**WHITTIER, CA**  
**Oct. 2-Nov. 27**  
**Rio Hondo College Art Gallery**  
**3600 Workman Mill Rd.**  
 Yoshio C. Nakamura is an award-winning artist who was the first faculty member to sign a contract with the Rio Hondo College. The exhibit features his recent and past creations in printmaking, digital art and more. A reception will be held at Oct. 4.  
**Info: Call 562/908-3492**

**Motoi Yamamoto Art Exhibit**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA**  
**Sept. 8 to Dec. 8**  
**Loyola Marymount University's**

**Laband Art Gallery**  
**1 LMU Drive MS8346**  
 Japanese artist Motoi Yamamoto presents his exhibit "Return to the Sea: Salt-works." Yamamoto is known for working with salt to create temporary, large-scale installations.  
**Info: Call 310/338-2880 or email [arden.sherman@lmu.edu](mailto:arden.sherman@lmu.edu)**

## >>MDC

**The 2012 Cleveland Japanese**

**American Foundation Picnic**  
**AKRON, OH**  
**Sept. 9, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**  
**Summit County Metro Park, Brushwood Shelter**  
**975 Treaty Line Rd.**  
**Cost: Donations to be made to CJAF**  
 The picnic includes games, relays, prizes for children, eating, hiking, relaxing, fishing, volleyball and a raffle drawing.  
**Info: Call John Ochi 440/442-6133**

## American Holiday Travel

### 2012 TOUR SCHEDULE

EASTERN CANADA HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . OCT 3-10  
 Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara Falls  
 HOKKAIDO AUTUMN HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . OCT 9-19  
 Sapporo, Wakkanai, Sounkyo, Abashiri, Shiretoko, Lake Akan, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya, Hakodate.  
 DISCOVER CUBA HOLIDAY TOUR (NEW TOUR - space limited) . . . . . OCT 30-NOV 7  
 Havana, Trinidad, Pinar del Rio, Cayo Santa Maria, Cigar & Rum Factory, Hemingway's Farm, Craft Market, Che Guevara Museum, Cienfuegos-a UNESCO World Heritage Site.  
 MUSIC CITIES HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . NOV 4-11  
 New Orleans, French Quarter, Memphis, Graceland, Beale Street BBQ, Nashville, Grand Ole Opry, historic RCA Studio B, Old Ryman Auditorium.  
 SPECTACULAR ANTARCTICA HOLIDAY CRUISE . . . . . NOV 27-DEC 10  
 Santiago, Ushuaia, cruise Drake Passage, Cape Horn, Antarctica Peninsula.  
 Daily Antarctica excursions by Zodiac boats. A&K MV Le Boreal Ship.

### 2013 TOUR SCHEDULE PREVIEW

SOUTHEAST ASIA HOLIDAY CRUISE . . . . . JAN 20 - FEB 4  
 Hong Kong, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Singapore.  
 Holland America ms Volendam.  
 NEW ORLEANS & CAJUN COUNTRY HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . MAR 10-16  
 New Orleans, Natchez, Lafayette - French Quarters, Steamboat Cruise, New Orleans School of Cooking, Anebellum Mansions, Cajun Country Bayou Cruise.  
 JAPAN SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . APR 10-20  
 Tokyo, Sado Island, Nagano, Toyama, Kanazawa, Amanohashidate, Tottori, Matsue, Hiroshima.  
 NEW YORK CITY GETAWAY TOUR . . . . . APR 11-16  
 "Big Apple"(5 night stay), 9-11 Ground Zero Memorial, Greenwich, Wall Street District, Little Italy, Metropolitan Museum of Art, a Broadway Show, Ellis Island/Statue of Liberty.  
 MICHIGAN SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . MAY 3-11  
 Detroit, Mackinac Island, Tulip Festival, Chicago, Green Bay-Wisconsin.  
 ENGLAND-IRELAND-SCOTLAND HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . MAY 17-31  
 London, Stonehenge, Bath, Cardiff, York, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Dublin, Waterford, Blarney, Killarney, Caernarfon, Grasmere, Edinburgh.  
 GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR . . . . . JUN 24-JUL 3  
 Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto.  
 MEDITERRANEAN EAST-WEST HOLIDAY CRUISE . . . . . AUG 18-31  
 Venice, Croatia-Split, Dubrovnik, Greece-Corfu, Italy-Naples, Rome, Florence, Monte Carlo, France-Marseille, Spain-Barcelona. Holland America ms Nieuw Amsterdam.  
 PANA CONVENTION . . . . . SEPT  
 Buenos Aires-Argentina.  
 EAST COAST ISLANDS GETAWAY TOUR . . . . . SEP 29-OCT 4  
 Mohegan Sun Resort & Casino(5 night stay), Day visits to New York City, Hamptons, Rhode Island.  
 KOREA HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . OCT  
 OKINAWA HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . NOV  
 COSTA RICA HOLIDAY TOUR . . . . . NOV

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# In Memoriam

**Akichika, Clara, 82**, Boise, ID; July 16; Clara was born to Teigi and Shizu Yamashita; after graduating from Pocatello High School in 1947; Clara studied business at the University of Utah and later moved to Los Angeles; in 1962 Clara married Paul Akichika in Santa Monica, CA and returned to Idaho; she was preceded in death by her husband Paul Akichika and her brothers, Art, Harvey, Guy, Frank, Mel, and Ben Yamashita; she is survived by her son Randall (Betty Chen) and their children Jean-Paul and Caitlyn; her daughter Ann (Ali Tabibian) and their children Ryan, Alexa and Sophia; and several nieces and nephews.

nieces, Pat Bowen, Sadami Ogden and Stephanie (Micki) Wolk; 1 gc.

**Mayemura, Teruo, 82**, Los



Angeles, CA; July 27; he is survived by wife, Yuko Mayemura; children, Allan (Grace) Mayemura and Grace (Glen) Kau; grandchildren, Collin, Jennifer Mayemura, Cheyne Hirota and Jake Kau; sisters, Shizuko Sakuda, Hideko (Tomio) Fukagawa and Chisako (Teruo) Ohtani; brother, Takeshi (Makiko) Mayemura.

**Nishi, Akitoshi Jim, 86**, Torrance, CA; July 23; he is survived by wife, Mutsuko Nishi; children, Joann and Henry (Eva) Nishi; brother-in-law, Tak (Keiko) Nishi; sisters-in-law, Kikuyo Yamaguchi and Yoshiko Yoshimori; 2 gc.

**Oyama F., Mary, 88**, Caldwell, ID; July 27; she was born to Japanese immigrants, Hikobe Fujii and Kiyono Kataoka Fujii; after WWII began, Mary and her family were relocated to Tule Lake Relocation Center; In 1943, Mary left her family and moved to the Minidoka; she married Jim Oyama in October, 1943; her first son, Wayne, was born in 1944; she was preceded in death by her husband, Jim; her parents; brother, George Fujii; and sister, Mitzi (Fujii) Nakao; survived by her sons and daughters-in-law, Wayne (Donna) and Wendell (Jane); brothers Lincoln and Ray; brother-in-law, Roy (Nori); sister-in-law, Katie; and numerous nieces and nephews; 3 gc.

**Ozawa, Bessie Hanaye, 87**, Monterey Park, CA; July 29; predeceased by her husband Kohei Ozawa; she is survived by sons, Kenneth and Stephen (Lori) Ozawa; brother, Takashi (Toshiko) Inouye; 2 gc.

**Sakuma, Setsu, 85**, Montebello, CA; July 10; she is survived by her

beloved son, Steve Sakuma; also survived by many other relative; 2 gc.

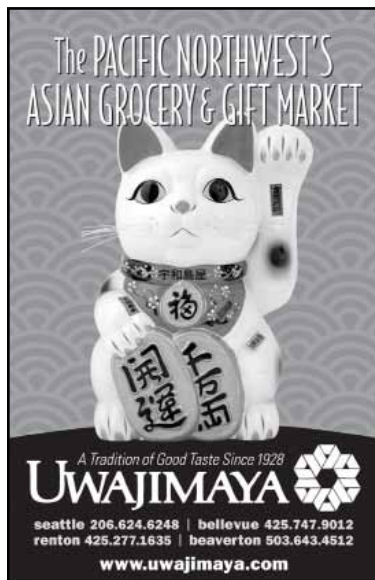
**Takehana, George Motoyuki, 99**,



Los Angeles, CA; July 22; husband of Shizuye Takehana; sons, Dr. Shigeru (Sunnie-Han) Takehana and Ralph Noboru Takehana; survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives here and in Japan; 3 gc; 6 ggc.

**Uradomo, Yukio, 84**, Torrance, CA; July 27; beloved father of Scott of Indiana, David (Janet) and Kimberly Uradomo; brother of Naoyuki Uradomo, Shigeto (Amy) Uradomo and Blanche (Haru) Watanabe; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives in California and in Hawaii; 2 gc.

**Yano, Paul, 92**, Los Angeles, CA; July 22; he is survive by his wife, Ukie; son, Steven (Susan) Yano; daughters, Christine (Harry) Gunther and Leslie (Elie) Maeda; brothers, Sam and Masa Yano; sister, Frances Sugai and many nieces and nephews; 5gc.



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## TRIBUTE

### Thomas Tetsuji Machida



Funeral services for THOMAS TETSUJI MACHIDA, 86, an Elk Grove-born Nisei and veteran of the Korean Conflict who passed away in Arcadia on June 23 after a prolonged illness, will be held on Friday, June 29, 7:30 p.m. at the Evergreen Baptist Church of San Gabriel Valley, 323 Workman Mill Road, La Puente. [www.fukuimortuary.com](http://www.fukuimortuary.com)

He is survived by his sons, Dr. Curtis A. (Cynthia) of Portland Oregon and Dr. Brian K. (Carolyn) Machida; grandchildren, Cerina (John) Griffin, Aimee Teruko and Tommy Eichi; sister, Lillian Niizawa; sisters-in-law, Ayako Machida of Oregon and Shizuko Machida of Japan and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

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**Sep. 29 - Oct.10 The Legendary Danube River Cruise: Hungary, Austria, Germany**

**Oct. 03 - Oct. 17 New England Colors & Eastern Canada: Fall Foliage**

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**Enomoto, Toshio, 87**, Venice,



CA; July 3; a Nisei veteran; he is survived by his son, Alan (Terri) Enomoto of Clayton, CA; daughter, Amy (Carlos) Enomoto-Perez and son John (Jean) Kuge; brother Henry (Kay) Enomoto; brother-in-law, Kay Kinoshita and sister-in-law Fujie (Masao) Inouye; 7 gc; 6 ggc.

**Hasegawa, Marii Kyogoku, 93**, South Hadley, MA; July 1; Marii was born to Itsuzo and Kiyo Kyogoku; she graduated from the UC Berkeley in 1938; Marii was interned at the Topaz; in Philadelphia she met Ichiro Hasegawa; they were married from 1946 until his death in 1999; Marii was active with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; a documentary film of her life was released in April 2012; she is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Kimi Hasegawa and Steven John; and Maya Hasegawa and Robert Wyckoff; 1 gc.

**Matsubara, Shizu, 98**, Los Angeles, CA; July 25; she is survived by her sons, Fred Mitsugi (Sylvia) and John Toshi Matsubara; sister-in-law, Hanae Matsubara; nephew, Norman (Patti) Matsubara;

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## &gt;&gt; KAWAMOTO continued from pg. 2

glance at the masthead shows that we have a *P.C.* that lacks an editor and assistant editor. (That of course begs the question, "How did this issue come out and how will future issues come out?" More on that at a later time!) I have also learned that our business manager also plans to leave the *P.C.* in the coming weeks.

The status quo is, to say the least, interesting. (Gil Asakawa's column elaborates on why we have lost two of our key *P.C.* editorial staffers, as well his perspective on recent history during his tenure as the *P.C.*'s Editorial Board chair.)

A notice of this situation was distributed through the national board for distribution to the chapters. It pointed out the probability that several issues of the *P.C.* might be missed because of the lack of staff and time needed to follow JACL's hiring procedures. I apologize to any of you who did not receive the notice, and am pleased that the work of the *P.C.*'s remaining staff and volunteers made this issue possible. This group will strive to publish the *P.C.* on a regular basis as we seek to fill the position with qualified personnel.

As Gil Asakawa noted, there is, in crisis, opportunity. We have, as an organization, found ourselves in a unique situation where we can address the many issues that have faced this paper and the JACL, and assess how we can best solve those issues with a clean slate. Not only am I new in this role,

we have a new national president and new executive director. Soon, we will also have a new *P.C.* editor, assistant editor, and business manager, as steps have already begun to find qualified individuals to fill those roles.

Short-term, I want to see to it that we meet our obligations to publish the *P.C.* on a regular basis. Slightly longer term, I want to make sure we can publish the annual Holiday Issue, the *P.C.*'s most-important edition from a fiscal perspective.

As those obstacles are surmounted, we have the larger issues of keeping the members of JACL informed, while at the same time examining solutions to a situation that can, if we show the necessary resolve, become the foundation for revitalization for *P.C.* and JACL. The steps we take in the coming weeks and months could also mean growth and forward movement for our organization.

For my part, I promise to do everything I can to see that this happens, and I hope that I can get your cooperation and thoughts on how to best make it happen. I also promise to work with my JACL colleagues and *P.C.* Editorial Board and trust that they are open to working with me as we examine all the options. Thank you all for your patience and support. ■

*Carol Kawamoto is the chair of the P.C. Editorial Board.*



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October 15-24	<b>Yamato Korean UNESCO Heritage Tour</b> – 10 days/8 nights visiting Seoul, Jeju Island, Busan, Gyeongju, Daegu, Andong, Sorak, Suwon return to Seoul	Grace Sakamoto
October 16-29	<b>Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan</b> – 15 days/13 nights visiting Fukuoka, Kumamoto, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Takayama & Tokyo.	Peggy Mikuni
October 21-29	<b>Yamato American Queen Steamboat Fall Colors Upper Mississippi River Cruise</b> 9 days/7 night voyage & 1 night hotel from St. Paul, MN to St. Louis, MO visiting Red Wing, La Crosse, Dubuque, Davenport, Burlington, & Hannibal	Sharon Seto
November 15-21	<b>Yamato Discover India Tour</b> – 7 day deluxe introductory to India, visiting New Delhi, Agra & Taj Mahal.	Philippe Theriault
November 15-23	<b>Yamato Passage to India Tour</b> – 9 days deluxe tour visiting New Delhi, Agra & Varanasi.	Philippe Theriault
December 1-10	<b>Yamato Christmas Markets in Europe</b> – 10 days visiting Prague, Vienna, Salzburg.	Philippe Theriault

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#### 2013

February 2013	<b>Yamato Florida's Sunshine Trail with Trafalgar</b> – 10 days/9 nights visiting Orlando, St. Augustine, Cocoa Beach, Cape Canaveral, Miami, Key Largo, Key West, Everglades, Naples, Fort Myers, Sarasota	Sharon Seto
June 23 - July 1	<b>Yamato National Parks Wonders with Trafalgar</b> – 9 days/8 nights visiting Salt Lake City, Jackson, Grand Teton National Park, Yellowstone National Park, Cody, Sheridan, Deadwood, Black Hills, Crazy Horse Memorial, Mount Rushmore, & Rapid City	Sharon Seto
October 11-18	<b>Yamato AMA Waterways Seine River Cruise – Paris &amp; Normandy</b> Expiring soon - Save \$1,000 per person if reserved & deposited by 8/31/12 9 days/7 nights visiting Paris, Vernon, Giverny, Rouen, Normandy Beaches, Honfleur, Les Andelys & Conflans. Optional pre and post tours will be offered – details to be announced	Sharon Seto

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